

contacts that can be converted to switching contacts by separating a web (6) that connects the inside ends of tongues (4) of a contact assembly (3) into separating contacts, or by inserting an insulating separator or through deformation.

11. (Amended) The modular multiple connection strap according to claim 10, characterized in that the chambers (2) in an area of a web (6) that connects the tongues (4) of a contact assembly (3) on the inside end are provided with an opening for temporarily accommodating a separating tool.

12. (Amended) The modular multiple connection strap according to claim 10 characterized in that the chambers (2) are provided in the area of the contact locations (8) of a contact assembly (3) with guide means for inserting an insulation separator.

13. (Amended) The modular multiple connection strap according to claim 10, characterized in that the contact locations (8) are laterally inclined such that when an plug connector is inserted, it only touches the edges of the contact locations.

### **REMARKS**

Entry of the amendment is respectfully requested since it would lessen the issues on appeal and is responsive to rejections made for the first time in the Final Office Action. Reconsideration is also requested in light of the foregoing Amendment and Remarks, which follow.